

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /072 W

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R 031400Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8377

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSULATE MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CZ

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

REF: PRAGUE A-95, JULY 4, 1975 (NOTAL)

1. A TWO-DAY PLENUM OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OPENED JULY 2 IN PRAGUE, AN EVENT REPORTED BY AL CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA. PLENUM DISCUSSION CENTERED JULY 2 ON THE FIFTEENTH KSC CONGRESS, ANNOUNCED FOR APRIL 1976, CONFIRMATION AND FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECONOMIC POLICY SET DOWN AT THE NOVEMBER 1974 KSC CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, AND DRAFTING KSC GUIDELINES FOR THE 1978-80 FIVE-YEAR PLAN. DEBATE ON FIRST DAY WAS LED OFF BY HUSAK, FOLLOWED BY VARIOUS CC SECRETARIES AND PRESIDUM MEMBERS BILAK, STROUGAL AND COLOTKA. TO THE EXTENT IT IS BEING REPORTED, THE PLENUM TALK SEEMS TO BE EMPHASIZING THE VALIDITY

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OF THE KSC'S NOVEMBER 1974 LINE ON OVERCOMING ECONOMIC

PROBLEMS RATHER THAN PROMULGATING NEW ECONOMIC APPROACHES. ONCE THE SESSION ENDS JULY 3, IT MAY BECOME CLEAR WHETHER MATTERS MORE CONTROVERSIAL THAN THOSE NOTED IN THE PRESS ARE BEING TAKEN UP.

2. AS AN UNUSUAL ASPECT WHOSE MEANING MAY BECOME APPARENT ONCE THE KSC CC PLENARY WINDS UP, WE NOTE THAT THE SLOVAK RPT SLOVAK CP CNETRAL COMMITTEE MET IN PLENARY SESSION ON JUNE 24; THIS CAME ONE WEEK BEFORE THE KSC CC PLENUM WAS CALLED--ITSELF NO SURPRISE, HAVING BEEN POSTPONED FROM EARLY JUNE BY MOST ACCOUNTS. A SLOVAK CP CC MEETING JUST IN ADVANCE OF A KSC CC PLENARY IS QUITE NOVEL. IN DECEMBER, LAST YEAR, A PREDICTABLE SLOVAK CP CC PLENUM WAS CALLED RIGHT AFTER THE KSC NOVEMBER GATHERING, OSTENSIBLY TO DECLARE PUBLIC SLOVAK CP ALLEGIANCE TO THE MUCH-HERALDED KSC "NOVEMBER LINE." IN ITSELF, THIS WAS NOT SURPRISING. BUT EVIDENCE POINTS TO JUST THE OPPOSITE AS HAVING HAPPENED: SLOVAK CP DEBATE OVER THE UNWORKABILITY OF NOVEMBER KSC DECISIONS WHICH SPILLED OVER, IN MUTED FORM, TO THE NEWSPAPERS. THE KSC LEADERSHIP--READ HUSAK--FINALLY SAW FIT TO SEND PRIME MINISTER STROUGAL TO BRATISLAVA TO CHAIR THE "REAL" SLOVAK PLENUM FOR CONFIRMING THE NOVEMBER LINE, WHICH MET IN JANUARY TO DECLARE THE NECESSARY ALLEGIANCE AND, INCIDENTALLY, TO RELEGATE THE DECEMBER SLOVAK CC PLENUM TO OBLIVION AS A NON-EVENT.

4. A LESSON PERHAPS HAVING BEEN LEARNED, KSC LEADERS--AGAIN AT HUSAK'S BEHEST--MAY HAVE BEEN FLOATING TRIAL BALLOONS AT LAST WEEK'S SLOVAK CC PLENARY, LETTING THE SLOVAK BRETHREN KNOW WHAT KSC PLENUM DECISIONS THEY WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO SUPPORT AND--IN THE BEST TRADITION OF DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM--PERHAPS EVEN GETTING A BETTER GRASP ON HOW THE KSC ITSELF SHOULD PROMULGATE ITS PLENUM DECREES THIS WEEK TO BEST AVOID SLOVAK CP RANCOR. THE FOREGOING IS NECESSARILY SPECULATIVE, AND WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR FURTHER EVIDENCE IN THIS INTRIGUING MATTER FO THE TIMING OF THE PLENUMS.  
PERRY

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## Message Attributes

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